

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 TEL AV 07705 01 OF 02 191321Z
ACTION NEA-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-14 ISO-00 SSM-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00
PM-05 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-02 SP-02 SS-15
NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 /082 W
-----125151 191352Z /64

O 191235Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3701
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
USMISSION SINAI
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 TEL AVIV 7705

E.O.11652: N/A
TAGS: PEPR, PGOV, PINT, IS, US, EG, JO
SUBJ: MEDIA REACTS TO CABINET DECISION

1. THE CABINET DECISION IS THE DOMINANT STORY IN
ALL NEWSPAPERS TODAY WITH MOST CHARACTERIZING THE GOVERN-
MENT'S RESPONSE TO THE AMERICAN QUESTIONS AS SIDESTEPPING
THE ISSUES. THE MORNING PRESS IS PARTICULARLY CRITICAL.
HAARETZ CALLS IT "DISAPPOINTING DECISION;" AL HAMISHMAR
SAYS THE GOVERNMENT PRODUCED AN "EVASIVE FORMULA INSTEAD
OF POLICY;" "DAVAR FEARS THE DECISION "INVITES AN
AMERICAN PLAN;" AND THE JERUSALEM POST ASSERTS THE
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 TEL AV 07705 01 OF 02 191321Z

CABINET ANSWER WAS "NEITHER A YES NOR A NO, NOR EVEN
A MAYBE; IT WAS...A BLANK." PREDICTABLY, HATZOFE
DEFENDS THE REPLY, MAINTAINING THAT "EGYPT
CAN FIND IN IT A FIRM BASIS FOR CONTINUING NEGOTIATIONS."

2. THE MASS CIRCULATION AFTERNOON DAILY MAARIV IS ALSO
UNCOMFORTABLE WITH THE RESPONSE, SAYING IT WILL NOLY

GIVE RISE TO FURTHER QUESTIONS. HOWEVER, MAARIV ADDS THAT NONE OF THE PROPOSALS RAISED IN THE CABINET WOULD HAVE SATISFIED THE U.S. THIS IS THE LINE ALSO TAKEN IN THE EDITORIAL OF THE OTHER AFTERNOON DAILY, YEDIOT AHARONOT. CALLIN THE CABINET DECISION " GOOD AND HONORABLE," IT ADMITS THAT THE ANSWERS "WILL NOT SATISFY VANCE AND SADAT," BUT ADDS THAT NONE WOULD BECAUSE "THEY HAVE BIG APPETITES."

3. ASIDE FROM THE EDITORIAL COMMENTS WHICH APPEAR PRELIMINARY, THE PRESS ZEROES IN ON THE KEY ACTORS IN THE CABINET DRAMA. BENZIMAN (HAARETZ) DESCRIBES WEIZMAN AS ANGRY. ARGUING THAT THE REPLY WILL NOT BE ACCEPTABLE TO THE U.S., WEIZMAN REPORTEDLY SAID IT WILL WORSEN ISRAEL'S POLITICAL SITUATION AND REQUIRE AN INCREASE IN THE DEFENSE BUDGET. HE IS SAID TO HAVE VENTED HIS ANGER ON DAYAN, WHO WEIZMAN CLAIMED "IS LEADING THE MINISTERS BY THE NOSE" -- A STATEMENT HARIF ALSO QUOTES IN MAARIV. BENZIMAN SAYS WEIZMAN WILL NOW CONCENTRATE ON THE AFFAIRS OF HIS MINISTRY. ZIMUKI (YEDIOT) QUOTES WEIZMAN AS SAYING "I'M NOW GOING TO PREPARE THE ARMY FOR THE NEXT WAR." HAARETZ MILITARY REPORTERS (SCHIFF) SAYS WEIZMAN CONFIDANTS ARE REJECTING RUMORS THAT HE IS ON THE VERGE OF RESIGNING. SCHIFF ADDS THAT THE REJECTION OF THE DEFENSE MINISTER'S PROPOSAL, AND THE FACT THAT THE PROPOSAL ITSELF WAS NOT EVEN DISCUSSED, HAVE AROUSED DEEP DISAPPOINTMENT IN THE DEFENSE ESTABLISHMENT. "THE REACTION BEING, THAT THESE

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 TEL AV 07705 01 OF 02 191321Z

PROPOSALS WERE WORKED OUT THOROUGHLY AND CONTAINED A REASONABLE CHANCE OF (OBTAINING) AN EGYPTIAN REPLY WHICH WOULD ENABLE A CONTINUATION OF THE NEGOTIATIONS, AS WELL AS THE SUPPORT OF THE U.S. THESE CIRCLES FEEL THAT IF THE AMERICANS CONSIDER

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 TEL AV 07705 02 OF 02 191341Z
ACTION NEA-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-14 ISO-00 SSM-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00
PM-05 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-02 SP-02 SS-15
NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 /082 W
-----125259 191353Z /64

O 191235Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3702
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
USMISSION SINAI
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

UNCLAS SECTION 2 OF 2 TEL AVIV 7705

ISRAEL'S REPLY AS TOTALLY UNSATISFACTORY, THIS COULD ALSO AFFECT THEIR APPROACH TO ISRAEL'S ARMS REQUESTS UNDER THE MATMON C PROGRAM. THEY DO NOT IMPLY THAT THERE WOULD BE A TOTAL REJECTION OF THE PROGRAM, BUT THERE COULD BE DELAYS REGARDING VITAL ITEMS IN THIS RESPECT."

4. DAVAR'S BLACH WRITES THAT YESTERDAY'S DECISION IS IN FACT A BROADER FORMULATION OF LANDAU'S PROPOSAL, IN LINE WITH THE PRIME MINISTER'S AUTONOMY PLAN, WITH THE ADDITION OF ONE ELEMENT FROM DAYAN'S PROPOSAL, REGARDING THE READINESS TO DISCUSS THE NATURE OF FUTURE RELATIONS AT THE END OF THE FIVE YEAR AUTONOMY
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 TEL AV 07705 02 OF 02 191341Z

PERIOD. BLOCH ADDS THAT SEVERAL MINISTERS NOTED THAT ISRAEL'S REPLIES MEAN THAT ADDITIONAL U.S. QUESTIONS ARE TO BE EXPECTED SHORTLY, AS WELL AS U.S. PRESSURES AND EVEN A U.S. PEACE PLAN. BLOCH WRITES THAT MANY COMMENTATORS DOUBT WHETHER EGYPT WILL ACCEPT THE CABINET DECISION AS A BASIS FOR RESUMING THE PEACE PROCESS. "IF WEIZMAN AND YADIN ARE OPPOSED TO IT - WHY WOULD SADAT ACCEPT IT?"

5. INTERVIEWED ON TV LAST NIGHT, DAYAN STATED YESTERDAY'S CABINET DECISION IS "A CLEAR AND UNEQUIVOCAL STATEMENT OF ISRAEL'S POSITION...IT IS NOT AN OBEDIENT ENDORSEMENT OF THE AMERICAN POSITION." DAYAN IS CREDITED WITH THE FORMULATION OF THE PHRASE IN THE CABINET REPLY, "THE NATURE OF THE FUTURE RELATIONS BETWEEN THE PARTIES."

6. THE PRESS REPORTS THAT THE LABOR PARTY IS BUSY

CONSULTING ON WHETHER TO CALL FOR A MOTION OF NO CONFIDENCE
AS PART OF THE KNESSET FOREIGN POLICY DEBATE LATER TODAY
THAT WAS SCHEDULED FOLLOWING YESTERDAY'S CABINET MEETING.
ALIGNMENT LEADERS ARE SAID TO BE CONFERRING WITH THE DMC. IS-
RAEL RADIO AND YEDIOT REPORT THAT WEIZMAN AND SEVERAL
MK'S OF THE COALITION PARTIES MAY ABSENT THEMSELVES FROM THE
SESSION TO SHOW THEIR DISAGREEMENT WITH THE CABINET DECISION.
BARZILAI (HAARETZ) REPORTS LIKUD KNESSET FACTION
CHAIRMAN AVRAHAM SHARIR HEADING A GROUP OF LIBERAL
MK'S OPPOSING YESTERDAY'S CABINET REPLY. SHARIR IS
QUOTED AS SAYING THAT CABINET CHANGES MAY BE NECESSARY.
AT TODAY'S SCHEDULED LIKUD KNESSET FACTION MEETING, A
GROUP OF LIBERAL MKS WILL DEMAND THE ADOPTION OF DE-
FENSE MINISTER WEIZMAN'S PROPOSAL. SHARIR IS ALSO
QUOTED AS SAYING THAT THE CABINET DECISION WILL BE PUT
TO THE TEST BY THE REACTIONS OF THE AMERICANS AND SADAT,
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 TEL AV 07705 02 OF 02 191341Z

AND IF IT DOES NOT BRING ABOUT THE RESUMPTION
OF NEGOTIATIONS, THEN "WE SHALL HAVE TO REEXAMINE OUR
POLITICAL STANDS". SHARIR WAS ALSO CRITICAL OF THE
AUTONOMY PLAN, CALLING IT "INSUFFICIENT".
LEWIS

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CABINET, PRESS COMMENTS, POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, MEETING PROCEEDINGS, NEGOTIATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 19 jun 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978TELAV07705
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780255-0046
Format: TEL
From: TEL AVIV
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780642/aaaabkvr.tel
Line Count: 197
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 006ec785-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 mar 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2293963
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MEDIA REACTS TO CABINET DECISION
TAGS: PEPR, PGOV, PINT, IS, US, EG, JO
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/006ec785-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014